REMARKS:

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-16 were rejected. Claims 1, 2 and 8-16 have been amended for clarification. New claim 17 has been added. Thus, claims 1-17 are pending and under consideration. No new matter has been added. The rejections are traversed below.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §101:

Claims 2-7, 13, 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

The Examiner claims that the claims recite merely an abstract idea that is not within the technological arts. Amended independent claims 2, 13, 14 and 16 are directed to a method for accepting transaction reservation of a transaction target from "a plurality of terminal devices" (claims 2, 13, and 14) connected with "a system for accepting transaction reservations" (claims 2, 13, 14 and 16) where "the terminal devices" and the "system for accepting transaction reservations" in the technological arts are used to correspondingly reflect temporarily changing conditions of terms of a transaction, a useful, tangible, and concrete result. Accordingly, claims 2, 13, 14 and 16 recite a method for accepting transaction reservation within the technological arts providing a useful, concrete, tangible result.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that because independent claims 2, 13, 14 and 16 and dependent claims dependent therefrom satisfy the requirements of 35 USC §101, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112¶2:

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112¶2, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-16 are hereby amended to comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112¶2. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

In the outstanding non-final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,477,533('533) in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,266,648('648).

'533 maintaining client relationships by defining temporal relationships between customers and agents for providing fixed cruise line information to customers without reflecting time dependent conditions.

'040 discusses selectable travel origin, destination, and waypoints to compute travel routes, including available transportation services, costs, options, and schedules related to travel to specified locations based on availability thereof at the time a reservation is made.

'648 discusses offering benefits from providers of goods/services to specific customers having an association with one or more of the providers of the goods/services.

The present application is directed to a system and method for accepting a transaction reservation where bargain data is presented in accordance with time dependent changes.

The Examiner maintains the comparison of the '533 providing fixed cruise line information to a customer with the present application's system and method for presenting discount services that reflect time dependent changes of discount services. In '533, selectable criteria including cabin occupancy, sailing date preferences, cruise destination, cruise duration, etc., is provided to the customer (see, column 20, lines 41-44 of '533) so that a cruise is booked based on the customer's selection (see, column 12, lines 17-23 of '533). This means that the cruise information provided in the '533 system is specific to the selectable criteria where time related data pertains to a specific cruise. Thus, in order for the cruise information to accommodate temporarily changing conditions of a cruise, a separate entry must be made into the cruise module having the cruise information.

Similarly, the '040 system generates outputs in response to user input inquiries configured around the common-sense travel issues of where, what/who, and when (see, column 16, lines 60-65 of '040) to assess time of day or night and/or seasonal factors related to travel to specified locations or engaging in certain activities (see, column 23, lines 49-56 of '040). For example, a user can input the user's birthday party date/time and tickets or special offers are displayed based on their relation to the birthday party date/time. The '040 system, thus, presents special offers or tickets based on comparison of a user entered time with *set* available offers.

The Examiner relies on '648 as teaching specialized target discounts where terms or target can be varied based on time periods of when the discounts apply. The '648 system compares identification information to consumer information to determine enabling

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organizations, if any, to which the consumer has an affiliation (see, abstract and column 5, lines 35-47 of '648). Then, a correlation file containing specific information necessary to determine whether a benefit available to a particular consumer by virtue of their association with an enabling organization will have some potential usefulness to a consumer contemplating a particular purchase of goods or services (see, column 6, lines 35-41 of '648). The benefit information includes data such as geographic locations of benefit availability, time periods, limits, conditions or other such factors necessary to determine whether the particular benefit listed in benefit file will be of potential usefulness for a particular consumer (see, column 6, lines 41-47 of '648). This means that the '648 system is limited to providing available benefits to customers who are affiliated with specific organizations where the benefit information includes fixed or set factors (including time periods) of the available benefits.

In contrast, the present invention includes, "determining terms for a transaction" for each time period (claims 2 and 8-12), where "each time period reflects temporarily changing conditions" (claims 1, 2 and 8-16) of the terms of the transaction and the discount services. This allows the terms of the transaction and the discount services to accommodate temporarily changing conditions, thereby eliminating a laborious operation of specifying corresponding terms/discounts for each time period.

The combination of '533, '040 and '648 does not teach or suggest, a method and system for accepting transaction reservation where "each time period reflects temporarily changing conditions", as recited in each of the independent claims 1, 2 and 8-16.

It is submitted that the independent claims 1, 2 and 8-16 are patentable over the combination of '533, '040 and '648.

For at least the above-mentioned reasons, claims depending from independent claims 1, 2 and 8-16 are patentably distinguishable over the combination of '533, '040 and '648. The dependent claims are also independently patentable. For example, as recited in claims 4 and 6 recite, accepting reservation of a transaction further comprises "confirming whether the reservation has been accepted", where reservation is accepted "based on the displayed terms for a transaction for each time period... [that] reflects temporarily changing conditions of the terms for the transaction" (claim 2). The combination of '533, '040 and '648 method does not teach or suggest, "confirming whether the reservation has been accepted" (claims 4 and 6), where reservation is accepted "based on the displayed terms for a transaction for each time period... [that] reflects temporarily changing conditions of the terms for the transaction" (claim 2).

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIM:

New claim 17 is added to highlight that the present invention includes, "displaying terms for a transaction correspondingly adjusted based on varied time periods that reflect temporarily changing conditions of the terms for the transaction" and "accepting a reservation of the transaction for a selected time period" when the selected time period is within the varied time periods displayed.

This allows the present invention to conveniently provide terms of a transaction that are adjusted based on varied time periods to reflect temporarily changing conditions, thereby eliminating the need to define discount offers/sales for each momentarily changing condition.

It is respectfully asserted that new claim 17 is patentably distinguishable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.
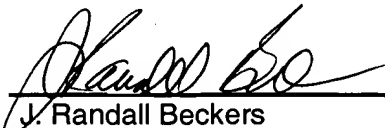
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: _/2/13/4_   By: _____

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